



91

expresslanes



# SR 91 Express Lanes in Orange County, California

A 10-mile segment of SR 91, providing two tolled median lanes in each direction between SR 55 in Anaheim and the Orange/Riverside County Line.

The corridor is one of the most heavily traveled routes in Southern California, carrying over 250,000 vehicles per day.

## Background:

- Opened in 1995.
- Funded and built entirely through private investments, being the first project born from California's Assembly Bill (AB) 680 legislation passed in 1989.
- A 35-year franchise agreement was signed so that a private entity would operate the facility on leased median right-of-way. However, Orange County Transportation Authority recently purchased the facility outright, allowing more flexibility to maximize throughput instead of profits.
- The tolling structures have evolved in response to changing traffic conditions in the corridor and public input.

## Public Outreach and User Profiles:

- During both the Planning Phase and Design Phase, comprehensive surveys of travelers and businesses were conducted. Information is continually updated through the use of surveys.
- Focus groups were initiated and continue to meet, involving community, political, government and industry interests.
- Press releases, newsletters, radio advertisements, and signage along the route continue to be used to communicate the news of the lanes.
- Based on survey feedback, females between the ages of 30 and 50 are more likely than any other group to use the express lanes.

## Quotes from the Commuting Public:

- "My 22-mile commute was reduced from 1 hour to 25 minutes each way"
- "As a small business owner, utilizing 'Express Lanes' has really helped me economically"
- "Saving 30 to 40 minutes on the freeway gets me home to my kids that much faster"




## Pertinent Facts and Observations:

- The Express Lanes are separated from the general purpose lanes by a striped buffer and plastic pylons.
- Customer satisfaction is over 90%, based on surveys.
- *Time Savings* is cited as the primary benefit, with an average of more than 30-minutes saved per trip.
- Safety was also noted as a key benefit.
- Passholders can manage their accounts on-line.



## Tolling Strategy:

- Electronic Tolling, using 'FasTrak' Transponders (compatible with other 'FasTrak' facilities in southern California).
- The fee charged changes by the time of day, depending on the congestion level, to maintain free-flow.
- Toll rates range from \$1 to \$6.25, and are deducted from accounts via overhead gantries while traveling full speed.



Express

Lanes

Toll Schedule

Effective April 5, 2004

Eastbound

55 to Riverside Co. Line

|          | Sun  | M    | Tu   | W    | Th   | F    | Sat  |
|----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Midnight |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| 1:00 am  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| 2:00 am  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| 3:00 am  |      |      |      | 1.00 |      |      |      |
| 4:00 am  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| 5:00 am  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| 6:00 am  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| 7:00 am  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| 8:00 am  | 1.35 |      | 1.70 |      |      |      |      |
| 9:00 am  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| 10:00 am | 2.05 |      |      |      |      |      | 2.05 |
| 11:00 am |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Noon     |      |      |      |      |      | 2.50 |      |
| 1:00 pm  | 2.40 |      | 2.25 |      | 2.50 | 3.90 | 2.40 |
| 2:00 pm  |      |      | 3.25 |      | 3.35 | 3.90 |      |
| 3:00 pm  |      |      | 3.50 |      | 3.75 | 5.50 |      |
| 4:00 pm  |      |      | 4.25 |      | 4.75 | 6.25 |      |
| 5:00 pm  | 2.05 |      | 4.75 | 5.50 | 6.25 |      |      |
| 6:00 pm  |      | 3.50 | 3.65 | 3.75 | 3.95 | 4.25 | 2.05 |
| 7:00 pm  |      |      | 2.50 |      | 3.55 | 3.95 |      |
| 8:00 pm  |      |      |      |      | 2.25 | 3.55 | 1.70 |
| 9:00 pm  |      |      | 1.70 |      |      | 2.25 |      |
| 10:00 pm |      |      | 1.00 |      |      | 1.70 |      |
| 11:00 pm |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |

Take a virtual 'drive' on the facility, and get more information:  
<http://www.91expresslanes.com>